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IF the small drama *On the Death of a Horse* in the *Chauve Souris* illustrates, as Balieff insists, the Greatness of the Russian Soul, it is easy to understand why Sherwood Anderson's notes on the Cincinnati river front reveal certain important facts about the mental processes of America. Admitting this, one admits also that *The Nation's* series, "These United States," is building a composite picture of America all the more faithful because it distinguishes instead of generalizing. While Kansas is still buzzing with William Allen White's accusation that his mother state is unsafe for poets, Nevada and Delaware and New Jersey leap into view and prove by the heat of their protests the unwelcome truth of their portraits. The series has been called the greatest journalistic undertaking of its kind in years; and the record when completed will form an important part of the written history of America.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

John Macy has added the ideas of his *Spirit of American Literature* to the rich tradition of Carl Van Doren's literary editorship of *The Nation*, and is making the book department illustrate the theme of his latest volume — that talk about literature is of no value unless in itself it is enjoyable. It is possible to be entertaining even about statistical works. *The Nation's* reviews achieve this when necessary, without sacrificing scholarship.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The above reasons for reading *The Nation* are of minor importance compared to your certainty that you will find information which is not accessible elsewhere; and that events in Europe are rather apt to turn out as *The Nation* prophesies them. At the left are mentioned a few attractive ways to see *The Nation* regularly.